

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FEBRUARY 14, 2011

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session, Monday, February 14, 2011 with Commissioners, Tom Barnes, Marvin Cole, Ken Masters, Deborah Adams, Auditor, and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance.

Commissioner Tom Barnes called the meeting to order, Marvin Cole made the motion to approve the minutes of the January 31, 2011 meeting as presented. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY

Jerry Sitton, Highway Superintendent, presented the January Highway report for the commissioners to review. The commissioners commended Sitton and his crew for their efforts on keeping the roads cleared.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

Jerry Sitton, Health Insurance Committee Chairman, brought before the commissioners for their approval the Business Associate Agreement between Rush County Government and Rush Memorial Hospital. The agreement which was effective February 1, 2011 is intended to comply with HIPPA. Ken Masters made the motion to sign the Business Associate Agreement. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EMA

Mike Ooley, EMA Director, reported on the ICS 400 Class that is a NIMS requirement.

Ooley also provided a comprehensive storm report. Ooley reported that due to the recent ice storm 55% of homes throughout Rush County homes were without power. The commissioners commended Ooley for his efforts.

AREA PLAN

Bill Todd, Area Plan Director, provided the commissioners with a sample ordinance of the state building inspection ordinance and their minimum standards. Todd reported that eighty (80) of ninety-two (92) counties currently utilize a building ordinance. Todd noted that he only performs a courtesy inspection to new construction in the county. Todd finished by stating Carthage and Glenwood have building ordinances.

Tom Barnes stated that in principal he did agree, but felt the issue need to be discussed in detail. Ken Masters made the motion to take the matter under advisement. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

Jeff Sherwood, Sheriff, had several items of which to report to the commissioners:

- Thirty-nine (39) inmates incarcerated in the Rush County jail.
- Electrical power surges causing problems in the jail secretary office.
- Over-time hours resulted from the recent ice storms.
- Merit deputy Duane Raab's damaged vehicle is now back on the road
- Thursday, February 17, 2011 will be the E-911 switch over from Verizon to IN-digital
- Purchased two (2) trucks and one (1) car for road deputies
- Working with Brad Smith of Rush Memorial Hospital regarding the one (1) explorer that was being traded in as a possible purchase by RMH to be utilized as a chase vehicle.
- Approved the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute Grant (seat belt) of \$2,000.00 on a motion by Ken Masters. Seconded by Marvin Cole. Motion carried.
- The commissioners commended Sherwood and his department on the outstanding job they did during the recent ice storm.

AUDITOR

Deborah Adams, Auditor, received approval of payroll ending February 18, 2011 on a motion by Marvin Cole, seconded by Ken Masters. Motion carried.

Bi-weekly claims were approved on a motion by Marvin Cole, seconded by Ken Masters. Motion carried.

Adams recommended that the commissioners renew their Professional Consulting Services with Maximus Consulting Services for a three (3) year agreement. Ken Masters made the motion to approve the agreement for one year and then changed his motion to approve the Maximus agreement for a period of three (3) years. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adams reported that the press release for the public internet certificate sale should be printed February 15, 2011. Adams reported that the public training will be held Friday, February 25, 2011. Carole Yeend, county website administrator, questioned if the information had been passed on to her to be posted to the website. Adams replied that yes it had.

Adams reported that the abstract has today been submitted for approval by auditor of state. Tax rates will be advertised in the newspaper beginning February 26, 2011. Adams also noted that the tax rates will be posted on the county website.

Adams reported that she will be attending the AIC legislative conference February 15 and 16, 2011. Adams made the commissioners aware that there would be no additional cost to the county as she is sharing a room with another county, and being on the AIC board the registration fee is no charge.

Adams reported that the first rent installment has been received on the county farm from Doug Kinder in the amount of \$22,695.00

COMMISSIONER

Tom Barnes shared a letter received from Bill Herdrich owner of Downtown Shell. Barnes explained that Herdrich has asked county employees to not use his parking lot during the Main Street Project. The commissioners continued to discuss the letter noting that Herdrich has been very accommodating with the county over past years. Ken Masters made the motion to have the letter attached to employee paychecks. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The commissioners also made note that a memo should be attached to inform employees to not block the trash dumpster by the jail, to not block the sheriff department garage doors, or block the recycle containers on the south side of the sheriff department garage.

MISC.

- Reviewed the January Treasurer Report
- Reviewed January EMS Run Reports received Raleigh Fire Dept, Carthage Vol Fire Dept., and Anderson Twp. Fire Dept

PUBLIC LEGISLATIVE QUESTIONS

- John Saxon, Rush County Citizen, questioned the commissioner's as to their views on the proposed legislation for the elimination of township trustees.

Tom Barnes shared that he had mixed feelings as there is both good and bad to the transfer over to the council. Barnes did respond that he preferred to not make any comment regarding the reduction of three (3) commissioner's to one (1) commissioner.

Ken Masters shared that the Township Advisory Board is the grass roots of county government.

Marvin Cole shared that he felt that there would be no gain by doing away with the township advisory boards or the reduction of three (3) commissioners' to one (1) commissioner.

- John Saxon questioned the commissioner's if they felt that the township trustees have been somewhat stripped of their duties.

Tom Barnes shared his thoughts that a plan would need implemented as to who reviews what. Saxon responded that he felt that township trustees currently do not fully do the duties that they are required to do.

The commissioners expressed that this is different for each county and each county is unique and should be looked at separately.

E-911

Forrest Marlatt, County resident and tax payer, shared his concerns if ALL E-911 calls come into the Rush County sheriff department. Sheriff Jeff Sherwood assured Marlatt that the new mapping software will solve the many problems being experienced.

Motion to adjourn was received from Ken Masters. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

<u>/s/Tom Barnes</u>	<u>/s/Marvin Cole</u>	<u>/s/Ken Masters</u>
Tom Barnes, Chairman	Marvin Cole	Ken Masters

ATTEST:

/s/Deborah C. Adams
Deborah C. Adams, Auditor